

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 ARA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1376

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C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 2366

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PR UN DA

SUBJ: PUERTO RICO AND THE COMMITTEE OF 24

REF: A) COPENHAGEN 2347 B) STATE 194115

SUMMARY: WE ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THE DANES WILL VOTE WITH US ON THE PUERTO RICAN ISSUE IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24. END SUMMARY.

1) AFTER DEMARCHE REPORTED REF A, DCM HAD BRIEF CONVERSATIONS ON PUERTO RICO ON AUGUST 17 AND 18 WITH MFA'S DEPUTY POLITICAL DIRECTOR, OLE BIERRING. ON BOTH OCCASIONS, BIERRING SAID, IN EFFECT, THAT THE DANES WERE SOLIDLY WITH US ON THIS ISSUE.

2) THE DANS' STAND WAS ELABORATED SOMEWHAT IN AUGUST 18 AND 19 CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN MFA'S UN DESK OFFICER, KLAUS KAPEL, AND POLCOUNS. KAPEL SAID THAT HE YESTERDAY RECEIVED A CABLE FROM THE DANISH UN MISSION STATING THAT UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE CONTRARY IT WOULD OPPOSE THE MOST RECENT VERSION OF THE PUERTO RICAN RESOLUTION IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24. IT WOULD ALSO OPPOSE ANY DISCUSSION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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PUERTO RICO IN THAT FORUM ON THE GROUNDS OF LACK OF

JURISDICTION. KAEL CONTINUED THAT HE WAS VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THAT NO INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE SENT FROM COPENHAGEN TO ALTER THE POSITION THE DANISH MISSION INTENDED TO TAKE. HE HAD NOT YET, HOWEVER, HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING THE MISSIONS TELEGRAM TO THE ATTENTION OF HIS PRINCIPALS.

3) KAEL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT NEITHER THE AUSTRALIANS NOR THE DANES WOULD MAKE A STATEMENT EXPLAINING THEIR PRESUMABLY NEGATIVE ATTITUDE: "IF, HOWEVER, THE AUSTRALIANS DECIDED TO SPEAK, THE DANES WOULD ALSO MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT EXPLAINING THEIR VOTE ON THE GROUNDS NOTED ABOVE - LACK OF THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION OVER ANY QUESTION CONCERNING PUERTO RICO".

4) COMMENT: DESPITE KAEL'S CAUTION, WE ARE VIRTUALLY CERTAIN THE DANES WILL GO WITH US ON THIS QUESTION. MFA INTERNAT COMMUNICATIONS ARE SOMEWHAT SNAGGED BECAUSE OF THE ANNUAL DANISH CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING HERE AUGUST 18-20.

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